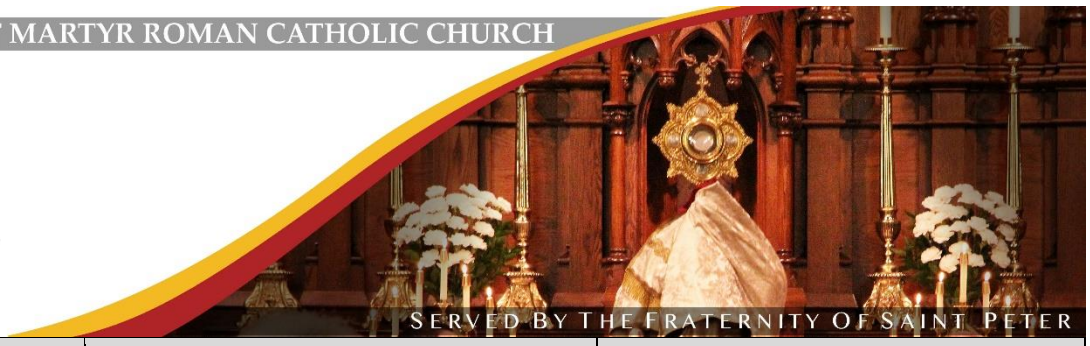
SAINT STEPHEN THE FIRST MARTYR ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



PARISH INFORMATION

PARISH OFFICE

Email stephenproto@yahoo.com
Website www.firstmartyr.com
Phone 916-455-5114
Address 5461 44th Street
Sacramento, CA 95820
Bookstore 916-223-3112

PRIESTS

Fr. Joshua Curtis, FSSP *Pastor*
frcurtis@fssp.com

Fr. David Franco, FSSP *Par. Vicar*
fr.franco.sacramento@proton.me

Fr. Evan Schwab, FSSP *Par. Vicar*
father.schwab@gmail.com

Fr. Evaristus Eshiowu *In Residence*

STAFF

Tish Gallagher *Parish Secretary*
stephenproto@yahoo.com

Keven Smith *Choirmaster*
ksmith_writer@yahoo.com

Kelly Mantsch *Parish Bookkeeper*
ststephenbusinessoffice@gmail.com

Stella Zapata *Custodian & Office Asst.*

Beth Afsari *Bookstore Asst.*

Kate Townsend *Bookstore Asst.*

Ana Warner *Bookstore Asst.*

Francis Dugyon *Sacristan*

SACRAMENTS

MASS SCHEDULE

Sun 7 am, 8:30 am, 10 am, 11:30 am, 1:00 pm (*Sung*), 6 pm
Mon - Fri 7 am, 12 pm, 6 pm
Sat 7 am, 8:30 am, 12 pm
Holy Day Check bulletin.

CONFESSIONS

We have confessions **every weekday**, starting one half hour before the beginning of Mass. There are also limited times on Sunday for confessions.

Sun 6:30 am & 5:30 pm
Mon - Fri 6:30 am, 11:30 am, 5:30 pm
Sat 6:30 am, 8 am, 11:30 am

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

Contact the Parish Office. Baptisms should be within the first two weeks after birth; marriages generally require six months of preparation.

SICK CALLS

Call the Parish Office to schedule a home visit for the Sacraments.

If someone is dying, outside of office hours, dial **916-455-5114**, then press **1**. You will be transferred immediately to the priest-on-call.

DEVOTIONS

THE DIVINE OFFICE

Tu - Fr 8:50 am, *Terce*
11:20 am, *Sext*
5 pm, *Vespers*
Sat 11:20 am, *Sext*
5 pm, *Vespers & Compline*

EXPOSITION & BENEDICTION

Thurs 1 pm - 6 pm

THE HOLY ROSARY

Sun 6:30 am & 7 pm
Last Sat After the 8:30 am (*15 decades*)

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

Tues After the 6 pm

PRAYER TO SAINT JOSEPH

Wed After all Masses

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Sun After the 1 pm
Thurs After all Masses

SAINT MONICA SODALITY

1st Th After the 6 pm Mass

THE SACRED HEART

1st Fri After all Masses

FATIMA PROCESSION

The 13th of the month, May to Oct.

STAYING CONNECTED

PARISH ONLINE NEWSLETTER

To receive the bulletin and important announcements online, call the Parish Office to register.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Registration forms are available in the Parish Office or Bookstore.

THE FSSP

St. Stephen the First Martyr is a personal parish of the Diocese of Sacramento. It is served by priests of **the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter**.

DONATIONS

ST. BERNADETTE FUND

Please consider giving to fellow parishioners in need. Donations can be made online or at the Parish Office.

ONLINE GIVING

Available at the parish website.
www.firstmartyr.com

Envelopes are very helpful for our bookkeeping, unless you are giving online. Please pick them up in the Parish Office.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

28 Dec	**Sun**	**Sunday within the Octave of the Nativity**, *I*
	7 am	+ Jose Francisco Reinares
	8:30 am	Nancy Butchy
	10 am	+ Jim Gallagher
	11:30 am	+ Holy Souls
	1 pm	*Pro populo*
	6 pm	Freiling family
29 Dec	**Mon**	**Within the Octave of the Nativity**, *II*
	7 am	Phil Carey & family
	12 pm	Lee King
	6 pm	+ Cullen Turner
30 Dec	**Tues**	**Within the Octave of the Nativity**, *II*
	7 am	Cecilia Boyer
	12 pm	+ Carmelita Llorera
	6 pm	+ Anthony Correa
31 Dec	**Wed**	**Within the Octave of the Nativity**, *I*
	7 am	+ Joseph Nghia Pham
	12 pm	Madonna A. DelaPaz
	6 pm	+ Christina Rio-Ashley
1 Jan	**Thurs**	**The Octave of the Nativity**, *I*
	7 am	Alex & Kate Townsend
	8:30 am	Zena Shinn
	12 pm	*Pro populo*
	6 pm	St. Monica Sodality
2 Jan	**Fri**	**Octave of St. Stephen the First Martyr**, *IV*
	7 am	+ E. Michael Maulhardt
	12 pm	Judy Bennett
	6 pm	Tom Mathers
3 Jan	**Sat**	**Octave of St. John the Evangelist**, *IV*
	7 am	Pope Leo XIV
	8:30 am	+ Daniel Huynh
	12 pm	+ Bernadette Hayes

PRAYER LIST

Ana Rosa Phomsopha, Josephine Cuellar, Mother Regina, Donna Hopkins, Inez Mora, Chuck Teixera, Carol Cummings, Ron Mantsch, Daniel Huynh, Avianna Ramirez, Ed Schneider, Paula Belen, Ralph Clark, Michelle DiGiovani, Mark Mitchell, Phil Carey, Judy Bennett, Jasinkas, Debbie Vilar, Dominick Damore, Judi Geldermann, Elaine Testa, Monique Rance, Karen Rich, Stephanie Reali-Saavedra, Theresa Reali, Don Varley, Dolly Lewis, Mary Ann Cuny, Barbara Graichen, Jim Carlson, Darryl Gallagher, Barbara Cogan, Jordan Aranas, JoAnn Mutterties

Please keep all the sick and homebound of the parish in your daily prayers, as well as the loved ones of fellow parishioners, and our adult catechumens and candidates.

IN MEMORIAM

Judy Roberts, Jim Gallagher, Geoff Pyka, Jim Kasak, Anthony Correa, Helen DiCarlo, Daniel Nguyen, Fr. Salgado, Jazmin Orozco, Peter Luong Van Tran, Anne Marie Ternes, Bob Crocker, Kathleen Scarry, Bill Sneeringer, Marion Nicholas, Vincent DiCarlo, Estelle McKnerney, Alfred Solorio, Fr. James Buckley, Rudy Nagel, Paul Graff, Pietro Lopresti, John Hymes, Teodosio Dino, Barbara Chu, Nellie Reyes, Albert Treskon, Violet Corr, Mary Hayes, Derald Goyette, Bonnie Williams, Frank Bowa, Ramon Daley, Eileen Morrison, Richard & Louise Szabo, Cesar Oliva, Joseph Damore, Ken Taylor, Joseph Menezes, Edgardo Mercado, Barbara Jeong

PARISH GROUPS

Choir & Music Classes & Organ Society ..... **Keven Smith**
Youth & Adults, Sunday & Thursday .... ksmith_writer@yahoo.com

Altar Guild & Altar Guild Minor ..... **Mike Solton**
Boys 7 – 18, Third Saturday 916-832-2859

Troops of Saint George (Scouting)
Boys 6 – 18 ..... CPT@tsgtroop750.org

Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary ..... **Amy Rutschow**
Girls 14 – 18, First Saturday 916-340-5782

Rosa Mystica ..... **Hannah Fauci**
Girls 9 – 13, First Saturday 323-590-8003

Little Flowers ..... **Katie Scarry**
Girls 5 – 8, First Saturday 530-945-6947

Youth Group ..... **Liz Hernandez**
Ages 14 – 18, Second & Fourth Friday 916-396-4062

OLSW Co-op ..... **Inocencio Rangel**
Ages 14 – 18, Tuesday & Thursday 916-804-6359

CCM Co-op ..... **Blanca Pimentel**
Ages 6 – 14, Thursday ..... blancaerodria@yahoo.com

Veritas (Young Adult Group) ..... **Kyle Watson**
Ages 18 – 39, Third Tuesday ..... veritasnorcal@gmail.com

Adult Catechism ..... **Fr. Joshua Curtis, FSSP**
Adults, Second & Fourth Thursday ..... frcurtis@fssp.com

Chesterton Society ..... **Spencer Roundtree**
Adults, Second Tuesday ..... sac.chesterton@gmail.com

Knights Penitent ..... **Alex Townsend**
Adult men, regional meetings 415-328-8759

Ushers ..... **Roger Soto**
Adult men, Sundays & Holy Days 209-610-1163

Security ..... **Federico Serrano**
Adult Men, Sundays & Parish Events 916-907-4236

Altar Linen & Flowers Society ..... **Tomoko McDonough**
Adult women, Third Saturday ..... mcdonoughmommy6@gmail

Church Flowers ..... **Hannah Fauci**
Friday or Saturday 323-590-8003

Church Cleaning ..... **Eli Gonzalez**
Wednesday 916-395-7408

Collection Count Crew ..... **Kelly Manstch**
Monday ..... *Parish Office* 916-451-5114

Brown Bag Lunch Program ..... **Maureen Olguin**
Sunday ..... jmolguin5960@att.net

The Gabriel Project ..... **Catarina Hinojos**
On call 415-286-6228

Senior's Lunch (55+) ..... **Janice Marston**
Third Thursday 916-459-9056

Coffee & Donuts ..... **Nicole**
Sunday ..... mrs99@pm.me

PLEASE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Fr. Jacob Kasak, FSSP; Riley Silva (OLGS seminarian); Sr. MaryAnne Regina, CM; Sr. Maria Dolorosa, FLM; Sr. Leonie, OSB; Sr. Rebekah Kasak (OSB)

Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in thee.

PASTOR'S COLUMN

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

On behalf of the priests and staff of St. Stephen the First Martyr, I wish a blessed Christmastide to our parishioners. The priests would like to express their warm gratitude for the Christmas cards and gifts received from parishioners. I would also like to thank the many volunteers – members of the altar guild, of the choir, decorators, and others – who made helped make Christmas beautiful for all the parish this year. I am grateful to the members of the Knights Penitent who assisting in preparing the church, taking over that responsibility from Judi Kasak, who organized it for some years now.

I remind everyone that a plenary indulgence is available on December 31, under the usual conditions, for the singing or recitation of the *Te Deum*. In like manner, on January 1, a plenary indulgence is available for the singing or recitation of the *Veni Creator Spiritus*.

I wish all of you good cheer and peace to men of good will, and I hope that many of you are able to enjoy some well-deserved rest from the cares of the world, time with loved ones, and the blessings of the Christ Child come unto the world.

EPIPHANY WATER BLESSING

The Epiphany water blessing will be held on Mon, Jan 5, after the 6 pm Mass, in the church. Some notes, please read carefully:

- Water containers must be at least one gallon in size.
- Containers must be clearly labelled.
- Limit of two containers.

This blessed water should foster a real devotion to the mysteries of Epiphany, namely: the visit of the Magi, the baptism of Our Lord, and the first miracle of Our Lord – the changing of water into wine. Use it with devotion throughout the year to petition Our Lord's presence and protection be made manifest. *And do please make every effort to attend Mass on Epiphany!*

IMPORTANT DATES

Jan 3	Christmas Party – 5 pm
Jan 4	First Holy Communion registrations due
Jan 5	Epiphany Water Blessing – after the 6 pm
Jan 5 - 30	Fr. Evaristus away from the parish
Jan 10	Security Team: Chicago Fire Pizza
Jan 11	First Holy Communion catechism begins
Mar 2-6	Lenten Mission: Fr. Joel Pinto, FSSP
May 2	Confirmations, 2 pm
May 9	Italian Dinner
May 30	First Holy Communion, noon Mass
Jun 14-20	2026, Camp Sacred Heart
Jun 20-26	2026, Camp Immaculate Heart

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday

First Holy Communion registrations are available in the bookstore. *Registration deadline is Sun, Jan 4*. Classes will begin on Sun, Jan 11.

Order beeswax and other devotional candles at the bookstore. They will be blessed at Candlemas, on Feb 2. All orders must be in by Thurs, Jan 1.

Christmas Party tickets are on sale in the courtyard. ***This is the last opportunity to secure tickets as we are submitting our numbers to the caterer on Monday.***

This Week

Confirmation Catechism continues its recess on Sun, Dec 28. We will return on Sun, Jan 4.

The electricians are returning to finish the **nave lights** restoration on Mon, Dec 29. So far, the front six lights have been replaced.

The ***Te Deum*** will be sung after Masses on Wed, Dec 31 for a plenary indulgence, under the normal conditions.

Octave Day of Christmas. Holy Day of Obligation. Thurs, Jan 1. Masses at 7 am, 8:30 am, noon (*sung*), & 6 pm. The *Veni, Creator Spiritus* will be sung after all Masses for the plenary indulgence.

The **parish bookstore** will be closed on Thurs, Jan 1.

First Friday & **First Saturday** fall this week. There will be a sung Mass at noon of Fri, Jan 2.

Christmas Party. Sat, Jan 3, at 5 - 9 pm. Join fellow parishioners in honoring Christmas tide. Chinese food dinner, followed by a youth talent show. **Auditions are now *closed;* all slots are filled**. Tickets at all Masses beginning Dec 7. *We do require many volunteers to make this event a success, please consider signing up!* Contact: Yesenia Rangel at YeseniaLovesLife@gmail.com, or, use the QR code:

Please note that the **Little Flowers**, **Rosa Mystica**, and the **Sodality of the BVM** will meet on the *second* Saturday (Jan 10) of the month in January on account of the Christmas Party.

Looking Ahead

Fr. Evaristus will be away from the parish visiting home from Jan 5 - 30.

Fran Cammarota
Realtor
(916) 367-2773
fran@francammarota.com
DRE#01052954

- Selling Real Estate Since 1989
- Ask About My 20% Parish Donation
- Father of Nine!

GUIDE REAL ESTATE
Forbes GLOBAL PROPERTIES

Philip E. Carey
free no obligation consultation

GENERAL LITIGATION * PERSONAL INJURY
BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS * PROBATE
WILLS & LIVING TRUSTS

PHIL@PHILCAREYLAW.COM T: 916-564-0706
2100 NORTHROP AVE, SUITE 900 F: 916-564-6455
SACRAMENTO, CA 95825

SING-PRAYER.ORG
HYMNS THAT TEACH THE FAITH

Support the evangelistic work of St. Stephens parishioners
Joshua Charles, Nancy Charles, John Eggers, and Jason Roberts

ETERNAL CHRISTENDOM
Homegrown Apostolate. Global Impact.
eternalchristendom.com

Joseph's Hammer
Handyman Services
Call or Text: (916) 318-9631
josephshammerhandyman.com

Jensen CPA
Philip A. Jensen, CPA
218.230.6136
philip@jensentaxadvisor.com
Individuals & Businesses
Tax Preparation | Accounting Services

Smelly Sisters Candle Co
Shannon Sakata & Kelley Tachovsky
Email: smellysistersco@gmail.com
Website: www.smellysisterscandleco.com
Hand poured, clean burning, scented candles.
Please reach out to us for special parishioner discount.

Home Helpers®
Making Life Easier®
Enriqueta Gallagher
Managing Member
Office: 279-219-4100
Mobile: 279-241-5003
enriquetag@homehelpershomecare.com
HomeHelpersHomeCare.com/Folsom-CA
Each office is independently owned and operated. License #344700135

PLACER COUNTY PLUMBING

SERVING SACRAMENTO AND SURROUNDING AREAS
STEVE 916-751-9913
CA LIC #948972

EAST LAWN
Cemeteries, Funeral Homes, Cremation, & Preplanning
Honoring the Catholic funeral tradition since 1904.
Call: Mike Solton
St Stephen Parishoner
916-832-2859
www.EastLawn.com
Lic. # FD-136, 1242, 2340, 1455
EST. 1904

Interested in supporting the print and office needs of the parish by placing an ad (2.55" x 1.36") in the bulletin? Contact Fr. Curtis by e-mail: frcurtis@fssp.com.